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PROPOSED BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1992 AND 1993

Note by the Secretary-General

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III. QUESTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1993**

** To be issued separately.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in accordance with rule 8 of its rules of procedure, shall draw up at its organizational session, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, its basic programme of work.

2. At its second regular session of 1988, the Council, in resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its decision 43/432, adopted a series of measures aimed at revitalizing the Council. With regard to its working methods and organization of work, the Council, inter alia, decided that, in formulating its biennial programme of work, the Council should, to the extent possible, consolidate similar or closely related issues under a single agenda item, in order to consider and take action on them in an integrated manner. The Council also decided that, prior to the organizational session, the President, with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, should arrange for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General and on the allocation of agenda items and make proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

3. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/264 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields. Section III of the annex to that resolution contains a number of measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the Economic and Social Council. In regard to the organization of work of the Council, the Assembly decided that the Council should hold an organizational session, not to exceed four days, in New York in early February to determine the annual agenda of the Council and related organizational matters, a resumed organizational session of one or two days at the end of April for the purpose of elections, appointments and confirmations, and one substantive session of four to five weeks to take place in alternate years in New York and Geneva between May and July. The Assembly also adopted measures in regard to the high-level segment, the coordination segment, the operational activities segment and the committee segment of the Council's regular session. Those segments are discussed below individually under the appropriate heading.

4. In decision 1991/294, the Council approved the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1992 and 1993 in the economic, social and related fields (E/1991/L.25 and Corr.1/Rev.1), according to which the Council is to hold its substantive session in New York from 29 June to 31 July 1992.

5. The Secretary-General submits herewith for consideration by the Council a proposed basic programme of work for 1992 and 1993 and proposed provisional agenda for 1992.

6. Section I contains the proposed provisional agenda for the substantive session of the Council in 1992. Section II contains the annotations to the agenda items, the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation, as well as suggestions for the allocation of items.

Section III, which will be issued as an addendum to the present document, lists the questions which, in accordance with decisions adopted by the Council and the General Assembly, should be included in the Council's programme of work for 1993.

7. At its thirty-ninth session, the General Assembly requested the Council, in discharging its responsibilities in preparing the work of the Assembly in the economic, social and related fields, to take fully into account the approved programme of work for the Second Committee of the General Assembly in formulating its own biennial programme of work and, in that context, (a) to concentrate, in its consideration of reports of intergovernmental bodies submitted through it to the Assembly, on the coordination aspect of the work of those bodies in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations; (b) to consider undertaking an in-depth review of the reports of intergovernmental bodies which the Assembly did not consider directly in a given year and to submit substantive recommendations thereon to the Assembly for consideration and action; (c) to consider reviewing those reports of intergovernmental bodies which the Assembly considered directly in a given year but not to consider draft proposals on them, except specific recommendations contained in the reports which required action by the Council and proposals that concerned matters relating to the coordination aspect of the work of those bodies; and (d) in some cases, as it deemed appropriate, to transmit certain reports directly to the Assembly without debate (resolution 39/217).

8. The reports of the World Food Council and the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy will be considered by the General Assembly in 1992. Accordingly, it is expected that the Council will review these reports but not consider draft proposals on them, except specific recommendations contained therein which require action by the Council and proposals which concern matters relating to the coordination aspects of the work of those bodies, and, if it deems appropriate, transmit the reports directly to the Assembly without debate.

9. With regard to the report of the Trade and Development Board, the Council may wish to consider the report of the Board on the second part of its thirty-eighth session (Geneva, 23 March-3 April 1992) and transmit directly to the Assembly the report of the Board on the first part of its thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 21 September-2 October 1992).

10. It will be noted that an item on the United Nations University has not been included in the proposed programme of work. The report of the Council of the United Nations University is considered by the General Assembly on a biennial basis in even years and in depth by the Council in odd years. Since the report of the Council of the United Nations University on its work during 1991 will be considered by the Assembly in 1992, the Council may wish to decide to transmit it directly to the Assembly.

11. With regard to the selection of a subject relating to interregional cooperation, of interest to all regions, for detailed consideration under the agenda item on regional cooperation pursuant to Council decision 1982/174, the Council will be informed of the joint recommendations of the executive secretaries of the regional commissions in this regard.

12. Report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts on the Impact of Global Economic and Political Change on the Development Process. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Economic and Social Council, to convene, within existing resources, during the regular session of 1992 of the Council, a meeting devoted to an informal exchange of views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts; and invited the President of the Council to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the views expressed during that informal exchange of views (Assembly decision 46/460).

13. Strengthening of the work of the United Nations in the field of operational activities. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1992, to consider whether the question of strengthening the operational activities of the United Nations system should be discussed by the Council at its regular session of 1992 and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its regular session of 1992, an analytical report on strengthening the operational activities of the United Nations system, including the governance and financing aspects thereof (Assembly decision 46/464).

I. PROPOSED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1992 OF THE COUNCIL

A. High-level segment

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. The international trade system and its impact on the development of the developing countries.

3. Eradication of poverty in the developing countries, including the impact of structural adjustment programmes on vulnerable groups.

4. Conclusion of the high-level segment.

B. Regular session

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council.

3. Programme and related questions.

4. Coordination questions.

5. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

6. Operational activities for development.

7. Regional cooperation.

8. Development and international economic cooperation:

   (a) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

   (b) Trade and development;

   (c) Food and agricultural development;

   (d) International cooperation in tax matters;

   (e) Transnational corporations;

   (f) International Conference on Population and Development;

   (g) Development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy;

(h) Development of the energy resources of developing countries;

(i) International cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

9. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

10. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

11. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

12. International cooperation in the field of informatics.

13. Public administration and finance.

14. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

15. Human rights questions.

16. Advancement of women.

17. Social development questions:

(a) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) Social development.

18. Narcotic drugs.

19. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 1/

Reports brought to the attention of the Council

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

1/ In accordance with Council resolution 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is transmitted to the General Assembly without debate, unless the Council decides otherwise, at the specific request of one or more of its members or of the High Commissioner, at the time of the adoption of its agenda.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

A. High-level segment

14. In the annex to its resolution 45/264, entitled "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields", the General Assembly set out guidelines for the high-level segment of the Council. It is to be of four days' duration, open to all Member States in accordance with Article 69 of the Charter, with ministerial participation, devoted to the consideration of one or more major economic and/or social policy themes, which are to be determined at the organizational session. Adequate Secretariat preparation is to include, in particular, one comprehensive background document for each theme; debate is to follow an integrated and interdisciplinary approach; and heads of the relevant organizations, agencies and other organs are to participate actively. Heads of multilateral financial and trade institutions of the United Nations system will participate in a one-day policy dialogue and discussion on important developments in the world economy and international economic cooperation, with a view to building areas of understanding. The main features of the deliberations of the high-level segment are to be presented to the Council by its President in the form of a summary, which would be incorporated in its final report.

15. At its second regular session of 1988, the Council decided, with a view to formulating and elaborating action-oriented recommendations, that it should undertake annually in-depth discussions of major policy themes, to be selected on the basis of a multi-year work programme derived, inter alia, from the priorities set out in the medium-term plan of the United Nations and the work programmes of other relevant United Nations bodies (resolution 1988/77). In paragraph 4 of its resolution 1989/114, the Council decided that the thematic analyses should review existing activities and be forward-looking in identifying policy options and gave further guidelines for their presentation.

16. At its organizational session for 1990, the Council, in decision 1990/205, adopted pursuant to its resolution 1989/114, established on a provisional basis a multi-year work programme for the in-depth consideration of major policy themes during the period 1992-1994, which would be considered in the context of a high-level special meeting of the Council and a review of the current sessional arrangements. The list of themes would be reviewed annually and adjusted on a roll-over basis as necessary and as stipulated in the relevant paragraphs of Council resolutions 1988/77 and 1989/114. The two themes included in the multi-year programme for 1992 are: "The international trade system and its impact on the development of the developing countries" and "Eradication of poverty in the developing countries, including the impact of structural adjustment programmes on vulnerable groups".

17. In its decision 1991/229, entitled "In-depth consideration of major social policy themes by the Economic and Social Council", which was adopted at its first regular session of 1991, the Council took note of Commission for Social Development resolution 32/3 and decided to consider the recommendations

contained therein at its organizational session for 1992. In that resolution, the Commission recommended, inter alia, that the Council consider in the future, as appropriate, major social policy themes after in-depth consideration by the Commission; that the Council consider, in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Commission and other relevant entities of the Secretariat, ways and means of providing the Council with all the necessary input and support, particularly materials required for the thematic analysis of the above-mentioned major policy theme, as well as policy recommendations and decisions resulting from its deliberations for consideration and appropriate action by the Council; and that the Council, pursuant to its decision 1990/205, select a major social policy theme for in-depth consideration at its first regular session of 1993, taking into account in particular the priority issues adopted and prepared by the Commission for consideration at its thirty-third session.

18. In the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees (E/1991/143, para. 69), it was proposed that a selection of the themes for discussion by the Council during the coordination and high-level segments of its substantive session of 1992 be made from the following: (a) strengthening of the work of the United Nations in the field of operational activities, including the coordinating role to be played by the Council; (b) coordinating role of the Council in the field of operational activities; (c) science and technology for development; (d) issues of coordination arising from the decisions to be taken at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; (e) relationships among socio-economic development, protection of human rights and democratization of society; (f) international trade system and its impact on the development of the developing countries (see Council decision 1990/205, where this theme is listed); (g) eradication of poverty in the developing countries, including the impact of structural adjustment programmes on vulnerable groups (this theme is also listed in Council decision 1990/205); and (h) financing of development.

19. The deliberations of the high-level segment are to provide political impetus for building areas of convergence and facilitate the consideration of the issues in question, including the emergence of new recommendations on the issues, in the relevant forums.

B. Regular session

Items for consideration in plenary meetings

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council.

3. Programme and related questions.

   Coordination segment: 2/

4. Coordination questions.

5. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

   Operational activities segment:

6. Operational activities for development.

Items for consideration by the Economic Committee

7. Regional cooperation.

8. Development and international economic cooperation.

9. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

10. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

11. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

12. International cooperation in the field of informatics.

13. Public administration and finance.

2/ Themes proposed for the coordination segment by the Joint Meetings of CPC/ACC have not been included as items at this stage, pending review by the Council at its organizational session.

Items for consideration by the Social Committee

14. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

15. Human rights questions.

16. Advancement of women.

17. Social development questions.

18. Narcotic drugs.

19. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

1. Items for consideration in plenary meetings

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

20. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/264 and Council decision 1991/294, the Council will hold its substantive session of 1992 in New York from 29 June to 31 July.

21. Non-governmental organizations. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1991/219, requested the Council to review at its regular session of 1992 the conditions necessary for the effective functioning of the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (Assembly decision 46/430).

Item 2. Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council

22. At its second regular session of 1990, the Economic and Social Council stressed the need for the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 1988/77 and 1989/114 and decided to review the implementation of the measures agreed upon for the revitalization of the Council, pursuant to its responsibilities for promoting international economic and social cooperation and in accordance with the relevant articles of the Charter, at its second regular session of 1992 (resolution 1990/69).

Item 3. Programme and related questions

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

23. The Council will have before it the revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 covering activities in the economic, social and related fields. The Council will examine the revisions in the light of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the matter (Council resolution 1988/77).

Discontinuance of summary records

24. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council decided to review the question of summary records of all its subsidiary bodies at its regular session of 1992 (decision 1991/295).

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-second session

2. Coordination segment

25. In the annex to its resolution 45/264, the General Assembly decided that a segment on coordination of the activities of the specialized agencies, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields should be held during the substantive session of the Council and organized as follows:

(a) A segment of four to five days devoted to the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system relating to the achievement of the economic and social objectives of the United Nations. Discussion would be organized around one or more themes selected at the organizational session, and designed to focus attention on the activities of the United Nations system in the selected economic and social areas;

(b) Discussion would take into account the report of the Secretary-General as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, together with appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination. That report should contain a system-wide assessment of the status of coordination with regard to the themes and include recommendations, as appropriate;

(c) The heads of concerned specialized agencies, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including multilateral financial and trade institutions, would be invited to participate actively, making contributions to the policy dialogue reflecting a global perspective on the agreed theme or themes, as well as their activities in the chosen themes;

(d) Recommendations which resulted from those discussions should be submitted to the General Assembly and forwarded, as appropriate, to the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system as well as to the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination. In that context, the Secretary-General should arrange to apprise the next session of the Council of steps taken by the United Nations system to give effect to those recommendations (Assembly resolution 45/264, annex, sect. III, para. 5 (d) (ii)).

26. In their report on the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings, the Chairmen of CPC and ACC proposed a number of themes for discussion by the Council during the coordination and high-level segments (see para. 18 above).

27. At its forty-sixth session, the Assembly requested the Council, at its organizational session for 1992, to consider among various proposals for themes for the coordination segment of its regular session of 1992 a theme entitled "Technical cooperation among developing countries as a modality in the formulation, preparation, execution and evaluation of the projects implemented by the organs, organizations, bodies, programmes and specialized

agencies of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields" (Assembly decision 46/463).

Item 4. Coordination questions

Reports of CPC and ACC

28. The report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) on the first part of its thirty-second session (Headquarters, 4-29 May 1992) will include the Committee's views on its consideration of the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC).

29. ACC submits an annual report to the Council (Council resolution 13 (III)) in order to provide the Council with a summary of the work carried out by the ACC machinery over the past 12 months. It will include a section on the most effective ways and means of enhancing coordination in the mineral and energy sectors (Council resolution 1991/90).

30. Pursuant to decision 1980/103, the Council will also have before it the report of ACC on expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes.

31. The Council will have before it the report of the Chairmen of CPC and ACC on the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees, held at Headquarters on 18 and 22-23 October 1991.

32. Protection against products harmful to health and the environment. The question of the exchange of information on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products has been considered by the General Assembly since its thirty-fourth session, in 1979 (resolution 34/173). In resolution 39/229, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, through the Council, to inform the Assembly every three years about the implementation of that resolution and of Assembly resolutions 37/137 and 38/149. These resolutions form the mandate for the issuance of regular updates of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or not Approved by Governments. They also address the need to keep the format of the List under continuing review, in cooperation with the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, with a view to its improvement, taking into account its complementary nature, the experience obtained and the views expressed by Governments. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in the context of the preparation of his next scheduled report on the question, to make specific suggestions on ways and means of providing technical cooperation, including through appropriate United Nations organizations, to countries, in particular developing countries, to create and strengthen their capacity to utilize the Consolidated List; and to study all the pending issues, such as sustainable alternatives to banned and severely restricted products and unregistered pesticides, with a focus on improving the usefulness of the Consolidated List (Assembly resolution 44/226, sect. II).

33. System-wide coordination of activities to advance the status of women and to integrate women in development. At its second regular session of 1989, the Council endorsed the timetable proposed by the Secretary-General for the preparation of a system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 (E/1989/9), in which a preliminary report outlining the proposed framework of the plan is to be submitted to the Council in 1992 through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee for Programme and Coordination. The Council will have before it the views of both those bodies on the matter. The detailed plan will be elaborated on the basis of the comments of those bodies. The proposed plan will be submitted to the Council in 1993 in time to provide guidance for the preparation of the individual medium-term plans of the system for the 1996-2001 cycle (resolution 1989/105).

34. Consumer protection. At its second regular session of 1990, the Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 39/248, in which the Assembly adopted guidelines for consumer protection, and its own resolution 1988/61, requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, to continue to provide assistance to Governments, in particular those of developing countries and other interested countries, in implementing the guidelines, and to develop a programme of action through 1995 in this regard. The Council also urged all Governments to continue their efforts to implement the guidelines and to collaborate in joint efforts for the protection of consumers. It also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council in 1992 on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1990/85).

35. Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in view of the serious socio-economic consequences of the AIDS pandemic and its negative impact on development in many developing countries, in collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, to utilize fully the research, analytical capacity and experience of the United Nations system in the planning of multisectoral activities and the earmarking of funds for countries requesting assistance for those activities, and also requested the Secretary-General to invite the Director-General of the World Health Organization, in close collaboration with all other appropriate bodies, organs and programmes of the United Nations system, to report through the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the resolution, taking into account the health aspects and all other dimensions of the pandemic (resolution 46/203).

36. Executive summaries of the activities of the specialized agencies. In resolution 1989/114, paragraph 11, the Council requested the specialized agencies to continue to submit annually to the Council executive summaries of their activities. These summaries will be made available to the Council.

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-second session

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1991

Report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the Joint Meetings of the two Committees (Council resolutions 1171 (XLI), 1472 (XLVIII) and 2008 (LX)) (E/1991/143)

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes (Council decision 1980/103)

Report of the Secretary-General on protection against products harmful to health and the environment (General Assembly resolution 39/229)

Preliminary report outlining the proposed framework of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 (Council resolution 1989/105)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 1990/85 on consumer protection

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

Item 5. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

37. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council requested its President to continue to maintain close contact with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid and to report thereon to the Council; it requested the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the resolution and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992 (resolution 1991/68). At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Council to continue, as appropriate, to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, appropriate measures for the coordination of the

policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the Assembly (resolution 46/65).

38. The attention of the Council is drawn to General Assembly resolution 46/20 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

39. Assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and their national liberation movement by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. The Council reviews annually, in consultation with the Special Committee against Apartheid, the assistance provided by agencies and institutions of the United Nations system in the context of General Assembly resolution 33/183 K.

40. Assistance to the Palestinian people. At its sixty-third session, in 1977, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to it annual reports on the question of assistance to the Palestinian people (resolution 2100 (LXIII)). At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, inter alia, took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/46/204-E/1991/80 and Add.1), reiterated its call for the implementation of development projects in the occupied Palestinian territory, called for facilitation of the establishment of Palestinian development banks in the occupied Palestinian territory, with a view to promoting investment, production, employment and income therein, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution (resolution 46/201).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people

3. Operational activities segment

41. In the annex to its resolution 45/264, the General Assembly decided that a segment of two to three days of the Council's regular session should be devoted to operational activities of the United Nations system, focusing, in

particular, on the follow-up of policy recommendations and decisions of the Assembly and coordination of activities on a system-wide basis, taking into account Council resolution 1988/77.

Item 6. Operational activities for development

42. In resolution 35/81, the Assembly decided to undertake a comprehensive policy review of operational activities on the basis of a coherent, integrated and systematic approach. It requested the Secretary-General, for the purpose of the review, to entrust the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation with the preparation of a report on policy issues pertaining to operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations system, for submission to the Assembly through the Council, and it provided guidelines to the Director-General regarding the preparation and contents of the report.

43. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/211 on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Director-General to conduct an independent study aimed at developing, among other possible ways to improve the United Nations system's coordination at the country level, the concept of a document containing the United Nations system's integrated operational response, at the country level, to the national programme framework of the recipient Government for operational activities for development, which would give greater coherence to existing programming instruments, and to submit that study to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, including an analysis containing his views on the impact of that approach, in particular on the role of the resident coordinator, on the leadership role of the United Nations Development Programme and on the relationship and relevance of such an approach vis-à-vis the existing coordinating mechanisms of the United Nations system at the country level, such as National Technical Cooperation Assessment and Programmes and round tables, as well as consultative groups, and possible ways for the implementation of the relevant elements contained therein; to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1990 a proposed three-year schedule for the implementation of the resolution by all the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and to draw attention to recommendations on which he considered additional guidance was required, particularly those facilitating the full implementation of that resolution, and make available the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation containing his recommendations for the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development (A/44/324-E/1989/106/Add.3); and to submit, for the next three years, annual reports on the implementation of the resolution, on a consolidated system-wide basis, to the Council at its second regular session. The Assembly also reaffirmed the provision contained in its resolution 32/197 concerning the representation of developing countries at the executive management and other central decision-making levels of secretariat structures in the area of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and

requested the Director-General to include, in his annual report to the Council, a section on the implementation of that provision.

44. In the same resolution, the Assembly called upon the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to make the adjustments required to implement the relevant provisions of the resolution and to prepare information on the measures taken, to be included, starting in 1991, in the annual reports of the Director-General submitted through the Council to the Assembly.

45. The three-year schedule proposed by the Director-General for the implementation of resolution 44/211 is contained in document A/45/273-E/1990/85 and Corr.1, annex.

46. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the importance of the triennial policy review of operational activities; requested the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a section on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/211 and recommendations, where appropriate, an assessment and analysis of the progress made in the shift from a project to a programme approach, a discussion of the measures already taken and proposals for decentralization of capacity and authority to the country level, an analysis of the progress made on and recommendations to promote further national execution, recommendations to strengthen the field representation of the United Nations system, an assessment of progress made in achieving common premises and a plan for the full achievement of that objective, and an assessment and appropriate recommendations on the contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations system to the enhancement of the national capacities of developing countries in the field of science and technology (resolution 46/219).

47. The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will report on the work of its thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 4-29 May 1992), as well as on its organizational meeting and special session (Headquarters, 10-14 February 1992) (Assembly resolution 2029 (XX)).

48. It is expected that the Governing Council will report, inter alia, on its consideration of the following funds and programmes:

(a) Technical cooperation activities of the United Nations. 3/ The Governing Council of UNDP reports annually to the Economic and Social Council on the technical cooperation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General (Assembly resolution 2029 (XX));

3/ Will not be considered by the General Assembly.

(b) United Nations Population Fund. 4/ The Governing Council of UNDP reports annually to the Economic and Social Council on the work of the United Nations Population Fund (Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) and Council resolution 1763 (LIV)).

49. Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes. The Committee submits an annual report to the Council (Assembly resolution 3404 (XXX)). The Committee will adopt its seventeenth annual report, covering the year 1991, at its thirty-third session (Rome, 25-29 May 1992).

50. United Nations Children's Fund. The Executive Board of UNICEF reports annually to the Council (Assembly resolution 802 (VIII)). 4/ Its annual session will be held at Headquarters from 15 to 26 June 1992.

51. World Summit for Children. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly, welcoming the adoption by the World Summit for Children, on 30 September 1990, of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for its implementation (A/45/625, annex), decided to consider at its forty-seventh session the question of the implementation of the Declaration, in particular the response of the United Nations system, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the resolution (Assembly resolution 45/217).

Documentation

Report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations system

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the operational activities of the United Nations system, including the governance and financing aspects thereof

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

Report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children

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4/ Will be considered by the General Assembly.

4. Committee segment

52. In the annex to its resolution 45/264, the General Assembly decided that specific economic, social and related issues, including their programme implications, should be considered in two separate committees meeting simultaneously which would examine and take decisions on the reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and other relevant reports. The meetings of the Economic Committee are to begin immediately after the operational activities segment; those of the Social Committee are to begin immediately after the completion of the coordination segment. Discussions are to be decision-oriented, focusing on specific recommendations, and not to involve a general debate. Discussion is to include review and monitoring of the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly in the economic, social and related fields. Reports of the Committees are to be submitted to the plenary Council for approval. The items discussed below are to be taken up in the committee segment of the work of the Council at its regular session.

Item 7. Regional cooperation

53. The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation and take the necessary action on the decisions and recommendations of the regional commissions contained therein.

54. The Council will also have before it the summaries of the surveys of regional economic and social conditions prepared by the regional commissions, highlighting the main problems and prospects of those regions. At its first regular session of 1979, the Council decided to discontinue the submission to it of the reports of the regional commissions (decision 1979/1). The reports are transmitted directly to all Member States. The Secretary-General, in his annual report on regional cooperation, in addition to reporting on the meetings of the executive secretaries, highlights developments within each region and draws the Council's attention to specific issues requiring its consideration. The report of the Secretary-General will bring to the Council's attention any decisions or recommendations of the commissions that statutorily require approval by the Council.

55. At its second regular session of 1982, the Council decided to identify, at its annual organizational session, a subject relating to interregional cooperation, of common interest to all regions, for detailed consideration under the agenda item on regional cooperation and to request the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to submit their joint recommendations in this regard to the Council at its annual organizational session (decision 1982/174). A section on interregional cooperation dealing with the topic selected will be included in the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation.

56. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested each regional commission, within existing resources, to contribute to the prevention of the illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes by monitoring and making regional assessments of the illegal traffic and its

environmental and health implications, on a continuing basis in each region, and requested the Council to submit recommendations to the Assembly on the findings and conclusions of the regional commissions, in accordance with the consideration of environmental issues (resolution 44/226, part I). The report of the regional commissions on this question will be annexed to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation.

57. A Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific during the period 1985-1994 was proclaimed by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (resolution 39/227). The Council, at its second regular session of 1984, and the General Assembly, at its thirty-ninth session, requested the Secretary-General to extend all necessary facilities and support to the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia annd the Pacific and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in their development of the regional action programme for the Decade in a practical and integrated manner and to mobilize the necessary international support for the successful implementation of the programmes for the Decade (Council resolution 1984/78 and Assembly resolution 39/227).

58. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council endorsed resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on phase II of the Decade; urged all appropriate international organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to contribute effectively to the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its regular session of 1992 and every two years thereafter until the end of the Decade a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1991/75).

59. Also at its second regular session of 1991, the Council adopted resolution 1991/81 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000). Subsequent to the adoption of that resolution, the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), at its fourth session, adopted resolution GC.4/Res.8 on the Decade (see A/C.2/46/19, annex), in which it recommended the adoption of the programme for the Decade (CAMI.10:ICE/1991/6/vols. 1 and 2) to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Council at its regular session of 1992. At its forty-sixth session, the Assembly endorsed Council resolution 1991/81 and took note with appreciation of resolution GC.4/Res.8 of the General Conference of UNIDO (decision 46/457).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation

Summaries of the surveys of economic and social conditions in the five regions, prepared by the regional commissions

Report of the Secretary-General on phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994

Item 8. Development and international economic cooperation

60. The Council will have before it the World Economic Survey, 1992, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 118 (II) and Council resolution 1983/50. The World Economic Survey, 1992 will contain seven chapters. Chapter I will provide an overview of the world economy in 1991, a summary of the major current and emerging issues and an assessment of short-term prospects. Chapter II will examine output trends and policies in the three main groups of countries: the developed market economies, the economies in transition and the developing countries. The major trends and issues in international trade will be examined in chapter III, which will also contain an analysis of the results of the Uruguay Round. Chapter IV will examine the main developments in savings, investment, international transfer of resources in the three groups of countries and the issues of external debt of the developing countries. Chapter V will examine trends and issues of energy supply and use and will include an analysis of the energy situation in the least developed countries. A preliminary analysis of the related issues of conversion of military facilities to civilian uses and the peace dividend will be undertaken in chapter VI. The General Assembly, in resolution 45/188, called for inclusion in the Survey of a chapter on the issues of entrepreneurship. Chapter VII will examine some of those issues.

61. The Committee for Development Planning will report on the work of its twenty-eighth session (Headquarters, 20-24 April 1992) (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI)).

62. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, taking note of paragraph (b) of Council decision 1991/275 on chapter V of the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its twenty-seventh session (E/1991/32), noted with appreciation the new criteria for identifying the least developed among the developing countries; requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the Conference at its eighth session on the resources and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries on the implementation of the Programme of Action for them for the 1990s, and to follow that report to the Conference with a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the same subject (General Assembly resolution 46/206).

63. Support of the international community for the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly, welcoming the merger on 22 May 1990 of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to form a single sovereign State called the Republic of Yemen, requested the Secretary-General to assist in mobilizing resources and to consider, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/222, developing a comprehensive programme to assess the needs of Yemen resulting from the unification, in order to enable the international community to extend assistance to meet those needs. It also requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council (resolution 45/193).

64. Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council noted that the High-level Meeting of Experts on Social Development Indicators, envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/234, had been held at Rabat from 8 to 11 April 1991 under the auspices of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development; requested the Secretary-General to organize another high-level meeting of experts, with a view to further advancing the work on qualitative indicators of development on the basis of the outcome of the first high-level meeting and the necessary further research, bearing in mind the need to ensure wider participation and collaboration of different scientific and technical disciplines; requested the Statistical Commission to keep the issue of patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development under consideration, with a view to assisting the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and, in particular, the mid-term review; and requested the Secretary-General to report orally to the Council at its regular session of 1992 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1991/94).

65. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187. In its resolution 42/186, the General Assembly adopted the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, contained in the annex to that resolution, as a broad framework to guide national action and international cooperation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound development, and specifically as a guide to the preparation of further system-wide medium-term environment programmes and the medium-term programmes of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in the light of decision 14/13 adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and requested the governing bodies of relevant United Nations organizations to report regularly to the Assembly on the progress made in achieving the objectives of environmentally sound and sustainable development in line with paragraph 114 of the Environmental Perspective. In its resolution 42/187, the Assembly, noting that the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond had taken account of the main recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, welcomed the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, entitled "Our Common Future" (A/42/427, annex), and requested the Secretary-General to review and coordinate on a regular basis the efforts of all the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to pursue sustainable development, and to report thereon to the Assembly through the Governing Council and the Council. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 (A/44/350) and requested the Secretary-General to prepare for submission to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and for further submission to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Governing Council of UNEP and the Economic and Social Council, a new consolidated report on the further substantive follow-up of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system (44/227).

66. Cooperation in fisheries in Africa. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, in close consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992, a report on cooperation in fisheries in Africa, including recommendations for its enhancement, and to include in his report ways and means to develop the potential capabilities of developing countries in fisheries, including economic and technical cooperation, particularly among developing countries (resolution 45/184). At its second regular session of 1991, the Council expressed satisfaction with the significant progress made by the follow-up committee of the Ministerial Conference on Cooperation in Fisheries among the African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean; took note with satisfaction of the convening of the second session of the Ministerial Conference at Dakar from 1 to 5 July 1991; and invited the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with the Chairman of the Conference, to submit a report, as appropriate, to the Council on the progress made and the results obtained (resolution 1991/73).

67. Combating aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia. At its second regular session of 1991, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and other international and national development assistance organizations, to undertake a study to assess the extent of the problem of aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia and to provide a framework for national and international cooperative efforts, and to submit the study to the Council in 1992 (resolution 1991/97).

68. At its second regular session of 1986, the Council requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to submit to the Council, on a biennial basis, a summary of the main research findings of the United Nations system on major global economic and social trends, policies and emerging issues (Council resolution 1986/51, part VI).

Documentation

World Economic Survey, 1992

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its twenty-eighth session

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the resources and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries on the implementation of the Programme of Action for those countries for the 1990s

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/193

Report of the Secretary-General on the further substantive follow-up of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation in fisheries in Africa

Report of the Secretary-General on combating aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia

Report of the Secretary-General on the main research findings of the system on major global economic and social trends, policies and emerging issues

(a) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

69. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly proclaimed the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, starting on 1 January 1991, and adopted the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, as contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 45/199. In accordance with the Strategy, review and appraisal relating directly to the progress of the Strategy as a whole is to be carried out biennially by the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, with an item on the implementation of the Strategy included in their agendas. The Secretary-General should submit appropriate recommendations in order to assist this process of review and appraisal.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

(b) Trade and development

70. It is expected that the Council will consider the report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-eighth session (Geneva, 21 April-1 May 1992) and transmit directly to the General Assembly the report of the Board on the first part of its thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 21 September-2 October 1992).

Documentation

Report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-eighth session

(c) Food and agricultural development

71. It is expected that the Council will review the report of the World Food Council on the work of its eighteenth session (Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX)). In doing so, the Council will consider only specific recommendations contained

therein that require action by the Council and proposals on matters relating to the coordination aspect of the work of the World Food Council. 5/

72. Review and analysis of agrarian reform and rural development. A report on progress in land reform was regularly submitted to the Economic and Social Council on the basis of Council resolution 370 (XIII) of 7 September 1951. The reports were usually prepared jointly by the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation and were usually submitted every four years. At its first regular session of 1980, the Council decided to discontinue the submission to it of progress reports on land reform (decision 1980/100, para. 5). The question of the type of report required for consideration of this matter by the Council was taken up at each of its sessions in 1981. At its second regular session of 1981, the Council took note of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on land reform and rural development (E/1981/73) and decided to approve the suggestion contained in paragraph 29 thereof concerning the submission to the Council every four years, beginning in 1984, of a report entitled "Review and analysis of agrarian reform and rural development" (decision 1981/185).

73. Fight against the screw-worm infestation. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council took note of the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (E/1991/62, annex) and of the note by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (E/1991/113, annex); and invited the Director-General of FAO, in cooperation with IFAD, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 an up-to-date report on the screw-worm eradication programme (resolution 1991/59).

Documentation

Report of the World Food Council on its eighteenth session

Report on the review and analysis of agrarian reform and rural development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the implementation of Council resolution 1991/59 on the screw-worm eradication programme

(d) International cooperation in tax matters

74. The Council reviews the progress of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters every two years (resolution 1980/13). It will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the 6th meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts (Geneva, 9-13 December 1991).

5/ The report of the World Food Council will be considered by the General Assembly in 1992.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

(e) Transnational corporations

75. The Council will consider the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session (Headquarters, 23-24 January and 8-15 April 1992) and take action on the recommendations contained therein. The Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the session in decision 1991/285.

76. The report of the Commission is expected to include the recommendations of the Commission on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and follow-up to the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons established to conduct the public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa (Council resolution 1986/1). In that resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Commission on Transnational Corporations, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the implementation of the resolution. In resolution 1991/54, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare studies on the level and form of operation by transnational corporations in South Africa and an updated study on the responsibilities of home countries with respect to the transnational corporations operating in South Africa in violation of relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, and to report annually to the Commission, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 1991/54.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session

(f) International Conference on Population and Development

77. At its second regular session of 1989, the Council decided to convene in 1994 an international meeting on population and designated the Population Commission as the preparatory committee (resolution 1989/91). At its second regular session of 1991, the Council decided that the meeting should henceforth be called the International Conference on Population and Development; requested the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to provide overall guidance, orientation and coordination of the input from the appropriate secretariats of the United Nations system to the preparatory activities of the Conference; and requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the Council at its regular sessions of 1992, 1993 and 1994 on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference (resolution 1991/93).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference

(g) Development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy

78. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/250, the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy reports to the General Assembly through the Council. It is expected that the Council will review the report of the Committee on the work of its sixth session (Headquarters, 3-14 February 1992). 6/ In doing so, the Council will consider only specific recommendations contained therein that require action by the Council and proposals on matters relating to the coordination aspect of the work of the Committee. The substantive themes selected by the Committee for consideration at its sixth session are (a) contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to decentralized energy systems and to specific multi-purpose medium- to large-scale applications; and (b) promotion of rapid and effective transfer of technology in the field of new and renewable sources of energy to developing countries, including the role of joint ventures in the framework of North-South and South-South cooperation, in fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the Nairobi Programme of Action, with a view to taking due account of the potential contribution of those sources to sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries.

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy on its sixth session

(h) Development of the energy resources of developing countries

79. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed its resolutions 40/208 and 43/193 and called for the effective implementation of all their provisions; welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on energy exploration and development trends in developing countries (A/45/274-E/1990/73 and Corr.1) and the outline of a programme of action for the acceleration of energy exploration and development in developing countries, contained therein; and requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council (resolution 45/209).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/209

6/ The report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy will be considered by the General Assembly in 1992.

(i) International cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

80. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, through his Personal Representative, to render assistance to the members of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the formulation and implementation of a coordinated and consolidated programme of action comprising costed project profiles, to help identify all possible resources for the programme of action and, inter alia, for strengthening the environmental capacities of the members of the Regional Organization to surmount the problem, and to allocate, within existing resources, the minimum resources required to enable his Personal Representative to continue to help coordinate the activities of the United Nations system to that end, and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution (Assembly resolution 46/216).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/216

Item 9. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

81. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the population of the Syrian Golan to their natural and economic resources, and regarded any infringement thereof as being without any legal validity; and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the economic and social consequences of the establishment of settlements by Israel in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Syrian Golan to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council (resolution 46/199.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social consequences of the establishment of settlements by Israel in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Syrian Golan

Item 10. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

(a) Special programmes of economic assistance

82. Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda. The Secretary-General apprises the Council annually of the status of this question (resolution 1983/46).

83. The Council will hear oral reports on the implementation of a number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. Written reports will be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session. A brief summary of the main provisions of these resolutions is given below:

Resolution 46/176 on emergency assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation prevailing in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the resolution, to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 of the progress made and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

Resolution 46/178 on emergency assistance to the Sudan and Operation Lifeline Sudan, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to assess the progress of the evolving emergency situation, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council of, all matters connected with the implementation of emergency and relief operations in the Sudan.

84. The Council will also have before it the following reports:

Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council called on all Member States and all organizations of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their efforts to provide all possible assistance for the Government of Lebanon in its reconstruction and development efforts, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its regular session of 1992 a report on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1991/61).

Assistance to Yemen. Also at its second regular session of 1991, the Council urged the international community to continue to respond to United Nations resolutions concerning assistance to Yemen in order to enable it to formulate and implement short- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes; and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its regular session of 1992 (resolution 1991/62).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 1991/61 on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Yemen

(b) Humanitarian assistance

85. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly called upon the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to

continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa; requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to continue his efforts to mobilize adequate financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in rural and urban areas affected by the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa; and requested him to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, and an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 (resolution 46/108).

(c) Disaster relief coordination

86. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2816 (XXVI), the Secretary-General submits a report on the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator to the Assembly and the Council.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator

Item 11. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

87. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/190 (A/46/215-E/1991/76/Rev.1); requested the Secretary-General to continue the activities related to the coordination of efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster in accordance with its resolution 45/190; and requested him to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution (General Assembly resolution 46/150).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/150

Item 12. International cooperation in the field of informatics

88. At its second regular session of 1991, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare a study analysing the causes of the lack of access of Member States to existing United Nations informatics systems and providing an outline of a rapid solution to the problem, leading to easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access to United Nations computerized databases and information systems and services, which are of great importance to all States, in particular to the developing countries, and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992 (resolution 1991/70).

89. Also at its second regular session of 1991, the Council, taking note of the report on international cooperation in the field of informatics prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/1991/104, annex), recommended that more effective use be made of the existing coordinating mechanisms, with a view to regular consultations and coordination concerning informatics within the United Nations system. The Council decided to keep this issue under review and to examine it at its regular session of 1992 and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1991/71).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on harmonization and improvement of United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessability by all States

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics

Item 13. Public administration and finance

90. The Council reviews the question of public administration and finance every two years, following the meeting of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (Council resolution 1199 (XLII)). At its first regular session of 1989, the Council, taking note of the report of the Ninth Meeting of Experts, requested the Secretary-General to convene the Tenth Meeting in 1991 (decision 1989/114). The Tenth Meeting of Experts was held at Headquarters from 4 to 13 September 1991 (Council decision 1991/205).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the Tenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

Item 14. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

91. The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination with a view to submitting to the General Assembly the Council's report as requested in paragraph 11 of Assembly resolution 39/16. The report will also contain an analysis of the replies received from Governments on action taken under the Programme of Action.

92. At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 10 December 1983 the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; approved the Programme of Action for the Second Decade annexed to the resolution and called upon all States to cooperate in its implementation; and requested the Council to take charge, with the help of the

Secretary-General, of coordinating the implementation of the Programme of Action and of evaluating the activities undertaken during the Second Decade (resolution 38/14).

93. At its thirty-ninth session, the General Assembly decided upon specific action to be carried out during the period 1985-1989; requested Governments to forward a report every two years on the action taken under the Programme of Action, on the basis of a questionnaire circulated by the Secretary-General, which reports would be transmitted to the Council for its consideration; requested the Council, during the period of the Decade, to submit an annual report to the Assembly, containing: (a) an enumeration of the activities undertaken or contemplated to achieve the objectives of the Decade, including the activities of Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, (b) a review and appraisal of those activities and (c) its suggestions and recommendations (resolution 39/16). At its forty-second session, the General Assembly approved the plan of activities for the period 1990-1993 (resolution 42/47).

94. At its first regular session of 1985, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit annual reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade (resolution 1985/19). At its first regular session of 1987, the Council requested the Secretary-General to present, in his future annual reports to the Council on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, more detailed information on the relevant activities of all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1987/2). At its first regular session of 1990, the Council adopted resolution 1990/49 on this subject.

95. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to implement immediately those activities scheduled for the period 1985-1989 not yet carried out and to proceed with the implementation of the activities scheduled for the biennium 1990-1991, requested him, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 42/47, 44/52 and 45/105, to ensure that the necessary and additional resources were included in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to provide for the implementation of the activities of the Second Decade and requested him to inform the Assembly of the steps taken in that regard, requested him also to continue to accord the highest priority, in executing the plan of activities, to measures for combating apartheid, took note of the report on the activities of the Second Decade, and reiterated its request to the Economic and Social Council, throughout the Decade, to submit a report annually to the General Assembly (resolution 46/85).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, including an analysis of replies from Governments on action taken under the Programme of Action

Item 15. Human rights questions

96. The Council will consider the general comments adopted by the Human Rights Committee at its forty-fourth session and the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixth session, as well as the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

97. The Council will also consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-eighth session (Geneva, 27 January-6 March 1992). The provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session were approved by the Council in its decision 1991/264.

98. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex) entered into force on 23 March 1976. In accordance with article 45 of the Covenant, the Human Rights Committee reports annually on its activities to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. In 1992, the Human Rights Committee is to hold its forty-fourth session at Headquarters from 23 March to 10 April, its forty-fifth session at Geneva from 13 to 31 July and its forty-sixth session at Geneva from 19 October to 6 November.

99. It will be recalled that, at its organizational session for 1983, the Council invited the Human Rights Committee to consider the possibility of rescheduling its meetings so that its report could be submitted to the General Assembly through the Council at its first regular session (decision 1983/101). At its organizational session for 1985, the Council agreed to the interim arrangement proposed by the Human Rights Committee, namely, that the Committee would transmit to the Council, on a regular basis, the text of the general comments adopted by the Committee in accordance with article 40, paragraph 4, of the Covenant; and, without prejudice to further consideration of the present arrangements at a future session, the Council decided to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit the annual report of the Human Rights Committee directly to the General Assembly (decision 1985/105).

100. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, entrusted by the Council, as from 1987, with overseeing the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolution 1985/17), will report on its sixth session, held at Geneva from 25 November to 13 December 1991. It will be recalled that the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex) entered into force on 3 January 1976. Under article 16 of the Covenant, States parties to the Covenant undertake to submit to the Secretary-General reports on the measures which they have adopted and on the progress made in achieving the observance of the rights recognized in the Covenant. The Secretary-General is required to transmit copies of the reports to the Council for its consideration. The Secretary-General is also required to transmit to the specialized agencies copies of the reports, or any relevant parts thereof, from States parties to the Covenant which are also members of

those specialized agencies in so far as they relate to matters that fall within the purview of the agencies in accordance with their constitutional instruments.

101. At its sixtieth session, in 1976, the Council laid down the procedures for the implementation of the Covenant (resolution 1988 (LX)). The Council set out a programme under which States parties would furnish, in biennial stages, the reports referred to in article 16 of the Covenant, as follows: first stage, rights covered by articles 6 to 9; second stage, rights covered by articles 10 to 12; third stage, rights covered by articles 13 to 15. The Council also called upon the specialized agencies to submit to the Council reports on the progress made in the observance of the provisions of the Covenant falling within the scope of their activities, as provided under article 18 of the Covenant.

102. At its first regular session of 1985, the Council decided, while maintaining the current programme of biennial reports for the first cycle of the reporting procedure under article 16 of the Covenant, to prolong by one year, the periodicity of reporting under the second and subsequent cycles of the reporting procedure (decision 1985/132). At its first regular session of 1988, the Council endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that States parties be requested to submit a single report within two years of the entry into force of the Covenant for the State party concerned and, thereafter, at five-year intervals (resolution 1988/4).

103. At its first regular session of 1978, in accordance with the provisions of resolution 1988 (LX), the Council decided to establish, for the purpose of assisting it in the consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant, a sessional working group composed of 15 members of the Council which were also States parties to the Covenant (decision 1978/10). At its first regular session of 1985, the Council decided that the Working Group established by Council decision 1978/10 and modified by Council decision 1981/158 and resolution 1982/33 should be renamed "Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights"; that the Committee should have 18 members who should be experts with recognized competence in the field of human rights, serving in their personal capacity, due consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of different forms of social and legal systems; that the Committee should meet annually for a period of up to three weeks, taking into account the number of reports to be examined; and that it should submit to the Council a report on its activities and make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature on the basis of its consideration of reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant and by the specialized agencies, in order to assist the Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant; the Council also decided to review the composition, organization and administrative arrangements of the Committee at its first regular session of 1990, and subsequently every five years, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution of its membership (resolution 1985/17).

104. Committee on the Rights of the Child. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Assembly resolution 44/25, annex). In accordance with article 43 of the Convention, the States parties, at their 1st meeting, held at Headquarters on 27 February 1991, elected the 10 members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child from a list of persons nominated by States parties. The Committee held its first session at Geneva from 30 September to 18 October 1991 and is to hold its second session, in 1992, at Geneva, at a date to be determined. In accordance with article 44 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, every two years, reports on its activities. The attention of the Council is drawn to Assembly resolution 46/112 on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

105. Commission on Human Rights. The report of the Commission is expected to include its response to the following resolutions:

(a) Assembly resolution 45/84, in which the Assembly, inter alia, decided to examine at its forty-seventh session, as a matter of high priority, the question entitled "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist regime in South Africa", in the light of any recommendations which the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee against Apartheid may wish to submit to it;

(b) Assembly resolution 46/115, in which the Assembly encouraged the Commission on Human Rights to complete the final text of the draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as soon as possible and to transmit it for adoption to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Assembly resolution 46/123, in which the Assembly called upon the Commission to continue to make proposals to the General Assembly, through the Council, on the future course of action on the right to development, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

(d) Assembly resolution 46/130, in which the Assembly called upon the Commission, at its forty-eighth session, to give priority to the review of the fundamental factors that negatively affect the observance of the principle of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes, and to report to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Council;

(e) Assembly resolution 46/134, in which the Assembly decided to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in Iraq during its forty-seventh session in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission and the Council;

(f) Assembly resolution 46/136, in which the Assembly decided to keep under consideration, during its forty-seventh session, the situation of human rights in Afghanistan in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission and the Council.

106. At its forty-fifth session, in connection with regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region, the General Assembly, in resolution 45/168, inter alia, took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question (A/45/210-E/1990/21) and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, incorporating information on progress achieved in the implementation of resolution 45/168.

107. Suppression of the traffic in persons. At its first regular session of 1991, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the Council, at its regular session of 1992, on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in Council resolution 1983/30, on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others, by those Member States, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations that had not yet submitted such information and to make that report available to the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (resolution 1991/35).

108. Infringements of trade union rights in South Africa. At its first regular session of 1991, the Council requested the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa to continue to study the situation and to report thereon to the Commission on Human Rights and the Council; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its regular session of 1992, for consideration and action, as appropriate, a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 1991/37).

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the general comments of the Human Rights Committee on its forty-fourth session

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixth session

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-eighth session

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region

Report of the Secretary-General on the suppression of the traffic in persons

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 1991/37 on the infringements of trade union rights in South Africa

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the relevant section of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa of the Commission on Human Rights

Documentation for information

Reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and by the specialized agencies

Reports submitted by the specialized agencies in accordance with Council resolution 1988 (LX)

Summary records of the sixth session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Item 16. Advancement of women

109. The Council will consider the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its eleventh session (Headquarters, 20-31 January 1992), the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on the work of its thirty-sixth session (Vienna, 11-20 March 1992) and the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Santo Domingo, 17-21 February 1992). The provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 1991/231.

110. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex). The Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was established under article 17 of the Convention for the purpose of considering the progress made in the implementation of the Convention. Under article 21 of the Convention, the Committee shall report annually on its activities to the General Assembly through the Council and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States parties to the Convention.

111. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women. In accordance with Council resolution 1987/24 on the long-term programme of work of the Commission to the year 2000, the following three priority themes are to be considered by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session: under equality, elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women; under development, integration of women in the process of development; under peace, equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament. Pursuant to Council decision 1990/213, the question of women and the environment is also to be considered as a priority theme under the

objective of development. The report of the Commission is expected to include recommendations on the following:

Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. In its resolution 1988/22, the Council established a comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and decided that the biennial reports of the Secretary-General on monitoring of progress made by the organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies should be considered by the Commission on the Status of Women in even-numbered years, beginning in 1990.

112. Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. At its sixtieth session, in 1976, the Council decided to establish the Institute as an autonomous body under the auspices of the United Nations, funded through voluntary contributions; it also decided on guidelines for the Institute (resolution 1998 (LX)). The statute of the Board was approved by the Council and endorsed by the General Assembly (Council decision 1984/124 and Assembly resolution 39/249). The Institute functions under the authority of a Board of Trustees, which reports annually to the Council.

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its eleventh session

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-sixth session

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Item 17. Social development questions

(a) Crime prevention and criminal justice

113. At its first regular session of 1991, the Council decided to give priority attention at its regular session of 1992 to crime prevention and criminal justice under a sub-item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" (resolution 1991/15).

114. In its resolution 45/108 on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice, the General Assembly decided to establish an intergovernmental working group, which would produce a report elaborating proposals for an effective crime prevention and criminal justice programme and suggesting how that programme could most appropriately be implemented. The Intergovernmental Working Group met at Vienna from 5 to 9 August 1991 and, pursuant to Assembly resolution

45/108, submitted its report (A/CONF.156/2) to the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, which met in Paris from 21 to 23 November 1991 (see A/46/703 and Corr.1).

115. In its resolution 46/152, the Assembly, inter alia, decided to recommend that the meeting of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, scheduled for February 1992, be cancelled. It also requested the Council at its organizational session for 1992 to dissolve the Committee and to establish a commission on crime prevention and criminal justice as a functional commission of the Council, in accordance with the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (Assembly resolution 46/152, annex), and to endorse the role and functions of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in accordance with the Statement of Principles and the Programme of Action.

116. The Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, had requested the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to examine and report on two particular issues: (a) implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for the programmes of the United Nations system (resolution 45/121) and (b) ways of strengthening international cooperation in combating organized crime (resolution 45/123). Pursuant to the former resolution, the Council was requested to undertake periodically the review, monitoring and appraisal of the resolutions and recommendations of the Eighth Congress and the priority accorded to them.

117. At its organizational session for 1992, the Council is expected to act on the recommendations of the Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

(b) Social development

118. Cooperatives and new trends in socio-economic development. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, inter alia, commended the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in promoting the cooperative movement (A/44/79-E/1989/8); requested him to follow closely national experience in promoting cooperatives and also, in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (resolution 44/58).

119. World social situation. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly took note of the interim report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation (A/46/56-E/1991/6 and Corr.1); noted with concern that the interim report of the Secretary-General did not adequately focus on the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation in many developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, which is the prevailing problem in many of those countries; endorsed the request of the

Council, contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1991/4, that the Secretary-General reorient the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation so that the draft framework is in consonance with the requests set forth in paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72 (Assembly resolution 46/95). The Council, in resolution 1991/4, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation for consideration at its regular session of 1992.

120. Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, to give its views on the continuation of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, with new terms of reference in response to General Assembly resolution 45/91, and to submit its recommendations to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session (resolution 46/96).

121. World summit for social development. The Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1991, taking into account the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-second session (E/1991/26) and bearing in mind the discussions held in the Second (Social) Committee, decided to request the Secretary-General to carry out consultations with all States Members of the Organization on the possibility of convening a world summit for social development and to report to it on the matter at its regular session of 1992 (decision 1991/230). At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Secretary-General requested in decision 1991/230, called upon the Council to make an appropriate recommendation to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session (Assembly resolution 46/139).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends

Report of the Secretary-General on the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation

Report of the Secretary-General on the possibility of convening a world summit for social development

Item 18. Narcotic drugs

122. The Council will consider the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-fifth session (Vienna, 30 March-8 April 1992) and take action on the recommendations contained therein. The provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its resolution 1991/39.

123. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly authorized the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to approve, on the basis of the Executive Director's proposals, both the budget of the programme of the Fund of the

United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the administrative and programme support costs budget, other than expenditures borne by the United Nations regular budget, and requested the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council on the ways in which it plans to carry out the administrative and financial functions (resolution 46/185 C, sect. XVI, para. 2).

124. Also at its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly reiterated its invitation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider, at its thirty-fifth session, in 1992, the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Expert Group to Study the Economic and Social Consequences of Illicit Traffic in Drugs, together with the comments of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, with a view to recommending appropriate follow-up activity, and to report on this issue, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (resolution 46/103, sect. II).

125. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board. In accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, article 18, paragraph 1, of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and article 23, paragraph 1, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the Board will report to the Council, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on its work for 1991.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-fifth session

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1991

Item 19. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

126. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports annually to the General Assembly through the Council, in conformity with paragraph 11 of the Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 428 (V), annex).

127. At its fifty-first session, in 1971, the Council decided that the report of the High Commissioner should be transmitted to the Assembly without debate, unless the Council decided otherwise, at the specific request of one or more of its members or of the High Commissioner, at the time of the adoption of its agenda (resolution 1623 (LI), sect. II).

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Reports brought to the attention of the Council

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

128. In accordance with the procedures set out in the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, as approved by the General Assembly in resolution 31/192, the Joint Inspection Unit reports annually to the Council on activities under the general responsibility of the Council. In accordance with the practice followed by the Council, reports that relate to agenda items will be considered under those items; reports that do not relate to agenda items will be considered separately.

129. At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly invited United Nations organs, when considering reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, to bear in mind the recommendation contained in paragraph 12 of the 1983 annual report of the Unit (resolution 38/229). The recommendation read as follows:

> "Because of the method of discussion of JIU reports in the past, clear decisions on the recommendations contained in JIU reports have not always been taken. This lack of clarity hinders effective follow-up by JIU. Legislative bodies of participating organizations could consider the possibility of adopting formulations along the following lines:
>
> "(a) Approves recommendations _____, and _____;
>
> "(b) Approves recommendations _____, and _____ in the light of the comments thereon by the Secretary-General (and/or ACC; and/or the debate in the Committee);
>
> "(c) Reserves its position on recommendations _____, and _____ in the light of the debate in the Committee;
>
> "(d) Does not approve recommendations _____, and _____." 7/

130. At its forty-second session, the General Assembly requested all bodies of the United Nations system to examine closely those reports of the Joint Inspection Unit that were within their respective areas of competence and to comment, as appropriate, on the recommendations contained therein (resolution 42/218). The attention of the Council is drawn to General Assembly resolution 45/237.

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/38/34), para. 12.